

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00207 140130Z

64

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 SAJ-01 /076 W

----- 016419

R 130832Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7859

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 0207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: ROK POSITION ON PALESTINE

REF: (A) SEOUL 6353; (B) STATE 214320; (C) SEOUL 8644

1. HANKUK ILBO AND GOVERNMENT KOREA HERALD JANUARY 12 CARRIED FRONT-PAGE STORIES REPORTING THAT ROKG IS CONSIDERING SUPPORT OF PLO. CITING MOFA OFFICIALS, ARTICLES REPORTED THAT LAST FALL ROKG HAD CONTEMPLATED ISSUING A STATEMENT ENDORSING UNGA RESOLUTION ON PLO. HANKUK ILBO IN LEAD STORY SPECULATED THAT ROKG IS BEING PROMPTED BY GRATIFYING ARAB SUPPORT ON KOREAN QUESTION, COUNTERVAILING NORTH KOREAN INFLUENCE IN ARAB WORLD, AND NEED FOR OIL TO STUDY POSSIBILITY OF RECOGNITION OF PLO. PAPER STATED, HOWEVER, THAT ROKG IS NOT CONSIDERING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PLO, AND ARTICLE WAS BASED ALMOST WHOLLY ON EARLIER REPORTS OF UNGA STATEMENT, WHICH REPORTEDLY WOULD HAVE EXPRESSED ROK SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE CLAIM TO STATEHOOD.

2. ACCORDING TO CHIEF OF MIDDLE EAST DIVISION OF MOFA PRESS ACCOUNTS REFER TO STATEMENT ROK WAS CONSIDERING IN SEPTEMBER (REF A). MOFA OFFICER WHO HAD BEEN IN NEW YORK AT TIME TOLD EMBOFF JANUARY 13 THAT ROK JOURNALISTS HAD BEEN ADVISED OF STATEMENT, WHICH WAS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00207 140130Z

NEVER MADE. HE HAD NO EXPLANATION FOR STORY'S APPEARANCE

AT THIS TIME. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH POSSIBILITY OF
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT HAS EXISTED SINCE LAST FALL, ROKG
IS NOT CURRENTLY PLANNING ANY CHANGE IN POLICY ON PLO.

3. COMMENT: PRESS STORIES MAY HAVE BEEN INSPIRED BY MOFA
IN CONNECTION WITH CURRENT MIDDLE EAST TRIP OF ASSISTANT
FONMIN KIM CHONG-TAE (REF C). ALSO, REPORTED INDIAN
RECOGNITION OF PLO, WHICH GOT SCANT NOTICE IN ROK MEDIA,
MAY PROMPT REVIEW OF ROK POLICY ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE. ROKG
TO DATE HAS BEEN CAREFUL TO GIVE TO ARAB CAUSES ONLY THAT
AMOUNT OF SUPPORT NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY ROK RELATIONS
WITH MODERATE ARABS, KEEPING IN MIND ISRAELI AND USG
INTERESTS. HOWEVER, AS IN CASE OF RECOGNITION OF
GUINEA-BISSAU, ROKG MAY BE TEMPTED TO JOIN IN IF NUMBER
OF THIRD WORLD NATIONS STRENGTHEN THEIR SUPPORT FOR PLO.
WE INTEND TO PURSUE STORY WITH MOFA AT DIFFERENT LEVEL.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, RECOGNITION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL00207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750013-0578
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750157/aaaabxpz.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SEOUL 6353, 75 STATE 214320, 75 SEOUL 8644
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK POSITION ON PALESTINE
TAGS: PFOR, KS, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006